UNITED NATIONS

ST

Secretariat

ST/IC/1997/16
25 February 1997

INFORMATION CIRCULAR

To: Members of delegations and staff

From: Assistant Secretary-General for Conference and Support Services

Subject: FIRST DAY OF ISSUE: 1997 ENDANGERED SPECIES SERIES AND STATIONERY

Stamps

1. On Thursday, 13 March 1997, the United Nations Postal Administration (UNPA) will issue the fifth set of stamps in its multi-year series on the theme "Endangered species". The issue will consist of 3 sheets of 16 stamps in denominations of US$ 0.32, SwF 0.80 and S 7. Each sheet will illustrate four different endangered species.

(United States equivalents - SwF 0.80: US$ 0.56 and S 7: US$ 0.65 - subject to exchange rate fluctuation)

Denomination: US$ 0.32

Endangered species:

African elephant
Major Mitchell's cockatoo
Black-footed ferret
Cougar

Designer: Lori Anzalone (United States of America)

97-04810 (E) 040397

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Denomination: SWF 0.80

Endangered species:

Polar bear
Blue-crowned pigeon
Marine iguana
Guanaco

Designer: Daniela Costa
(Italy)

Denomination: S 7

Endangered species:

Barbary macaque
Blue crane
Przewalski's Wild Horse
Giant anteater

Designer: Robert Goldstrom
(United States
of America)

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Maximum cards

2. The fourteenth set of maximum cards will also be issued on 13 March 1997. Three different cards will be produced to accommodate the three se-tenant blocks of four stamps being issued. The appropriate se-tenant blocks of stamps will be affixed and cancelled first day of issue relevant to the respective office. The maximum card cancelled United Nations New York will sell for US$ 1.58. The cancelled United Nations Geneva card is priced at US$ 2.54, and the cancelled United Nations Vienna card is priced at US$ 2.89, subject to exchange rate fluctuations.

1997 endangered species annual collection

Special note

3. The 1997 endangered species annual collection folder will be released on or about 30 May 1997.

Stationery

4. UNPA will issue a new 50-cent air letter on 13 March to replace the current surcharged 50-cent air letter. The air letter is based on two photographs taken by Unmesh, a staff member of the United Nations.

General information

5. For the convenience of collectors, UNPA at Headquarters will provide prepared and cancelled New York, Geneva and Vienna first-day covers on the UNPA official first-day cachet ONLY. Air letters cancelled first day of issue will also be available.

6. Members of delegations and the staff can obtain the new stamps and other philatelic items on Thursday, 13 March, at the following locations:

(a) The UNPA sales counter in the concourse of the General Assembly Building: 9 a.m. to 5.30 p.m.;

(b) Counter at the north end of the Secretariat lobby from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.;

(c) Counter outside the cafeteria in the DC-1 building from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

7. Staff members are encouraged to use United Nations stamps on their personal mail. By doing so, these miniature messengers of peace can educate thousands of people worldwide about the activities and goals of the United Nations.

8. Information on United Nations stamps can be accessed on the Internet at http://www.un.org/Depts/UNPA.